## Menshek, Peggy Y

From:

Anders Thorstenson <anders.thor@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 02, 2012 1:44 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Comment on Feb 15 Draft Ward Map

## Dear Members:

As a resident of Whittier, I have great concerns over the proposed draft ward map, specifically the western border of Ward 6. The current proposed lines cut the neighborhoods of Whittier and Stevens Square/Loring Heights in half and move the commercial corridor of Nicollet Avenue into a predominantly (89.69%) white and affluent 10th ward. Nicollet Avenue is the economic and cultural heart of the neighborhoods and is home to a large number of minority-owned businesses. The current proposed lines effectively dilutes the voting power of those who live in the majority-minority Whittier and SSLH neighborhoods.

Splitting neighborhoods is inevitable, but it is critical for the Redistricting Group to ensure that when splits do occur, minority communities are not disenfranchised.

Anders Thorstenson Whittier